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ABSTRACT

This anthology of 30 stories, poems, and personal essays on diversity grew out of a writers' retreat for teachers. It features: reflections on diversity--how it can be a positive, strengthening force in teaching and learning; effective strategies for teaching and learning within a diverse population; and practical information about running a writer s retreat for teachers, including a sample writing workshop plan. The first section, "Where We Meet," includes: "The Hardest Class Ever" (Diane Danthony); "Yesterday Meets Tomorrow" (Ruth E. Weiner); "Backing Off" (Beverly C. Lucey); "The Principal Makes an Exception to the No Hat Rule" (E. J. Miller Laino); "Ratana's Story" (Diana Callahan); "Desk Hangers" (Linda Fernsten); "Staying After" (Beverly C. Lucey); "What's in a Name?" (Richard Schaye and David Summergrad); and "We Teach Them All" (David Summergrad). Part 2, "Who We Are," includes: "I.M.O.B." (E. J. Miller Laino); "Circling the Difference" (Susanne Rubenstein); "Dancing Down the Street" (Nancy Allen); "The Bones" (Joel Levine); "New Language" (Ricardo Calleja); "Two Teeth and a Tigey" (Jane Katch); "Endurance" (Daniel Murphy); "Pieces of Our Soul" (Deborah Savarino); "Across the Field" (Sylvia B. Shaw); and "My Town, San Luis, Cuba" (Ricardo Calleja). Part 3, "What We Learn," includes: "A Cambodian Girl's Lesson" (Daniel Murphy); "Butterflies All" (Tess Boyle); "Just James" (Catherine Desjardins); "Red Tie Shoes" (Jane Katch); "Marisol" (Amy Mann); "Shelley Gives Her Report" (Beverly C. Lucey); and "For My Nigerian Student Who Will Not Believe That Men Have Landed on the Moon" (John Hodgen). The fourth section, "What We Bring," includes: "I Once Had a Student Named Michael" (Nancy O'Malley); "Losing Your Place" (Beverly C. Lucey); "Silence Is No Longer Golden" (Eugenia M. Nicholas); and "Did You Read It Yet?" (Roberta G. Lojko). The final two sections address the need to support the diversity of all learners (including teachers) and offer suggestions for organizing a writers retreats for teachers. (PB)